[*Translation*]

Transfer of Loss Making Public Sector Undertakings to Private Sector

2050. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to transfer the Public Sector Undertakings running in losses to the Private Sector;

(b) if so, the names of the undertakings being transferred to the Private Sector;

(c) whether it is also a fact that certain products reserved for the public sector have been allowed to be manufactured in the private sector as well; and

(d) if so, the areas of such operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The statement on Industrial Policy of 24th July, 1991 has already indicated the reduction of reserved list of industries for public sector from 17 to 8. Manufacture of products where strategic considerations predominate shall be with the public sector. For other industries competition will be induced by inviting private sector participation.

[*English*]

Closure of Bengal Unit of KRIBHCO

2051. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision to close down the Bengal Unit of the Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) has evoked sharp criticism from the employees attached to it;

(b) if so, the reasons for its closure; and

(c) the number and fate of the employees working therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a). No, Sir.

(b) With a view to rationalising the transportation of fertilizers and ensuring minimum outgo of freight subsidy, no allocation for supply of Urea to West Bengal was given to Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) during Kharif 1991 and Rabi 1991-92. In view of no marketing activity in the State, KRIBHCO closed their Marketing Office at Calcutta.

(c) The employees numbering six will be accommodated in other marketing units.

Allotment of Foodgrains to Different States

2052. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a wide-gap between the allotment of foodgrains to different States by the Union Government and the lifting of those articles by the State Governments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap and the ensure the availability of food articles to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). During the last three years, viz., 1888-89 to 1990-91, the lifting of foodgrains (rice and wheat from the Central